



# DEVELOPMENTAL DISABILITIES DIVISION

## BULLETIN

Spring~Summer 2006

<http://www.hawaii.gov/health/disability-services/developmental/current-dddbulletin.pdf>



### Developmental Disabilities Division's Mission

*The mission of the Developmental Disabilities Division is to assure community based supports and services for persons with developmental disabilities through the principles of self-determination and person-centered planning.*

Welcome to the Developmental Disabilities Division's (DDD) combined news bulletin with information from Division Administration, Case Management and Information Services Branch, and Developmental Disabilities Services Branch (Neurotrauma). The DDD news bulletin is a means to communicate Division happenings.

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## DEVELOPMENTAL DISABILITIES DIVISION'S REORGANIZATION

**T**he Developmental Disabilities Division is presently working on its reorganization plan. The target date for submission of the reorganization plan is August 31, 2006.

In the reorganization plan, three branches are being proposed:

1. Case Management Branch
2. Resource Support and Development Branch
3. Compliance Liaison/QA Branch

These Branches will reflect the Developmental Disabilities Division's:

- a) case management function;
- b) needs assessment and resource development functions;
- c) quality assurance and compliance functions.

The input from the strategic planning groups and many staff has been invaluable in realigning our planned organizational structure with our mission.

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## TWENTY-THIRD LEGISLATURE, 2006

### DDD/NEUROTRAUMA RELATED BILLS PASSED INTO LAW

<u>Act Number</u>	<u>Bill Number</u>	<u>Description</u>
17	SB 2338	<b>Emergency Appropriation to the Department of Health for the DDD -</b> Emergency appropriation to continue DDD's efforts to meet state approved target numbers under the current Medicaid HCBS Waiver program.
65	HB 1899	<b>Relating to the Use of Safety Helmets by Minors -</b> Requires drivers of mopeds, under the age of eighteen years, to wear a safety helmet securely fastened with a chin strap.
175	SB 427	<b>Relating to Child Passenger Safety -</b> Amends Hawaii's child passenger restraint law by requiring children under eight years of age be properly secured in a child safety or booster seat.
261	SB 2630	<b>Making an Appropriation for Developmental Disabilities –</b> Makes an appropriation to fund operations of DD Domiciliary Homes and apartment projects for the DD.
265	HB 1821	<b>Relating to Care Homes –</b> Clarifies that domiciliary care includes care provided in DD Domiciliary Homes, community care foster family homes, and adult foster homes. Increases level of care payments for types I and II ARCHs.
270	SB 3247	<b>Relating to Care Homes –</b> Expands capacity for certain types of care homes. Requires a certain number of beds for Medicaid patients in certain types of care homes.
303	HB 2098	<b>Relating to Developmental Disabilities –</b> Enables individual with DD or MR the freedom to choose to live in a safe residential setting of their choice provided that they can be sustained with supports, and the supports are attached to that individual.

## DON'T LET YOUR GUARD DOWN – BE PREPARED!



Hawaii's beautiful weather can turn to powerful storms, such as hurricanes, generally during the months from June to December. The effects can include damaging surf and storm surges along coastlines, destructive winds, water spouts and tornadoes, heavy rain and flooding. Should one of these powerful storms strike an island, no area will be safe from its effects.

The state Civil Defense has added disaster preparation information on its Web Site to assist people with disabilities: [www.scd.hawaii.gov](http://www.scd.hawaii.gov) Under "special needs information," there is a checklist for people with special needs that can be downloaded and printed. The checklist covers topics such as reducing hazards in the home, preparing a disaster kit, fire safety and evacuations.

Direct links to the "Assisting People with Disabilities in a disaster" and "Checklist for People with Special Needs" are on the Hawaii State Department of Health Developmental Disabilities Division's Website. Please be prepared for your self-advocates and family!

# VOLUNTEERING AT WAIMEA VALLEY AUDUBON

by volunteers Susan Kono & Cisco Welch

It is early afternoon on an intermittently rainy day at Waimea Valley Audubon Center and two volunteers are working to remove dead invasive vines from a fence line. Dirty work and hard? Maybe, but both volunteers are having fun with the tasks and both are getting far more from the experience than the value of the work they are doing. As each rain squall passes over, one volunteer, in a power wheelchair, raises his umbrella. The other volunteer, able-bodied if a bit decrepit, ducks under a nearby tree. Suddenly and for the next hour, a Shama thrush perches less than a foot above in the same tree and sings his complete, breathtaking and aching beautiful repertoire for what seems to be no other reason than to pass the time. These moments are just one part of the volunteer experience for us.

Cisco and I have been volunteering at Waimea Valley Audubon Center for about a year and a half. Cisco is an engaging young man who is challenged by multiple physical and mental disabilities and I am his former Skills Trainer and present



Personal Assistant and, most important, friend. Our goal when we first started volunteering at Waimea was to give Cisco the opportunity for a more structured and meaningful volunteer experience than that he had known on a very limited basis at school. Kelly Perry, our Waimea Volunteer Coordinator, took the time to interview Cisco and me and carefully chose several tasks that matched Cisco's capabilities and Waimea's needs. We tried every suggested task, eliminated those that didn't work so well for us, and now volunteer twice a week as Na Poe Kokua (a sort of trail guide who greets visitors, answers questions, carries a first aid kit and radio and monitors conditions in the valley), weed pullers, composters and endangered Moor Hen researchers.

It has been a joy to watch Cisco succeed at these jobs and feel proud of his efforts. He and I both relish the beauty and peace of the valley. I have volunteered for several other non-profit organizations and have, in turn, managed a small cadre of volunteers for two non-profits. What makes the volunteer experience such a success at Waimea, I think, is the support and appreciation expressed constantly to us by the paid staff. We are never made to feel as though we are second-class. Also, the work we do was not invented just to keep volunteers busy and engaged; it is real work that meets the organization's real needs. Most important, however, is the fact that in our particular case, the work is matched and adapted to the skills and challenges we bring to it.

We are two volunteers who are very happy with our volunteer experience!

*Respectfully and with Aloha,  
Susan Kono & Cisco Welch*

# PCAH 19TH ANNUAL “Breakfast with Santa” FUNDRAISER

## CHRISTMAS TREATS GALORE FOR SUNNY BUDDIES

Friends, family and volunteers joined Sunny Buddies and Prevent Child Abuse Hawaii (PCAH) volunteers Marisa Nip and Cory Cote at the PCAH 19TH Annual “Breakfast with Santa” fundraiser at the Japanese Cultural Center of Hawaii on December 11. Everyone was overwhelmed by the luncheon meal and treats at the Santa event. Treats included live stage entertainment, clowns, face painting, games, crafts, costumed characters, magicians and a Christmas gift.



*Marisa Nip (right), and her buddy Adrienne Ma (left), with Tigger*



*Peter Quintanilla (third from left) with his buddy Sean McElligott (top left) and Jonathan Pang (second from right) with his buddy Ronald Tanaka (right) decorating their picture frame*



*Peter Quintanilla (front) with his buddy Sean McElliott (to Peter's right) and Marisa Nip (middle) with her buddy Adrienne Ma (behind Marisa) working on their Christmas ornaments*



*Kammy Kam (second from left) with her buddy Julie Andrada (to Kammy's right) ready to spin the wheel to win a prize*



*Kammy Kam having her face painted*

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## CHRISTMAS TREATS GALORE

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Buddies were treated to visits from Winnie-the-Pooh, Tigger, Mickey and Minnie Mouse, Barney, Elmo, Lani Moo and others. They participated in Christmas ornament and picture frame making, and spin the wheel for a prize. Having photos taken with Santa was a big hit.

The treats were made possible courtesy of PCAH, who generously donated thirty tickets to Sunny Buddies. Even Santa had a treat – a great big hug from Peter!



*Cory Cote (left) with Barney*



*Peter Quintanilla with Santa*

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## The DD CONSUMER SERVICES OFFICE

The Developmental Disabilities Consumer Services Office is a component of the DD Division's Quality Assurance System and is a part of the DD Division's effort to improve quality of care and quality of life for people with disabilities. The DD Consumer Services Office (CSO) primary function is to field complaints, concerns, and/or issues from individuals with developmental disabilities, mental retardation, autism, Neurotrauma/Traumatic Brain Injury, family members, guardians, circles of supports, providers, concerned citizens, state workers, etc. and to facilitate reporting of these complaints and issues of concern. These are issues, which have not been resolved at the case management unit level, provider level, or systems level. The office monitors these



*Larry Lopez, Ted Endo and Paul Kanehiro*

occurrences for systemic improvements, enabling the DD Division and its staff to effectively and efficiently provide services to its consumers, families and providers. The DD Consumer Services Office generates an analysis of performance indicators

and outcome measures as a method of identifying trends to prevent reoccurrence and suggest revisions to relevant rules, policies and procedures that would improve system performance.



## NEUROTRAUMA SUPPORTS

Disability Supports Branch  
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Division

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If you have Microsoft Windows media player, check our website: [www.hawaii.gov/health/disability-services/neurotrauma/index.html](http://www.hawaii.gov/health/disability-services/neurotrauma/index.html)

for videos on-line. Videos that are relevant to survivors of brain, spinal cord injury and stroke will be shown periodically.

For information and resources, or to suggest topics of interest for this newsletter, call the Neurotrauma Helpline at 808-453-6151.

## LIFE GOES ON

A joint project between HMSA, Pacific Basin Research Rehabilitation Training Center and the Developmental Disabilities Division. The outcome will be a training video on Person-Centered Planning (PCP) with persons with traumatic brain injury (TBI) and their lives after injury. DVDs will feature survivors and their circle of support and others from the field of brain injury as well as resources on TBI and PCP. Production is underway and copies to be made available in the near future.



## GIVING HELP, HOPE & HEALING

Hawaii's Neurotrauma Conference 2006

The first ever Neurotrauma Conference For Families and Survivors of Traumatic Brain Injury, Spinal Cord Injury and Stroke was held on May 25, 2006 at Renaissance Ilikai Waikiki Hotel. There were close to 130 participants and 15 exhibitors.

Presentations included a PowerPoint by Dr. Linda Rosen of DOH on Neurotrauma in Hawaii, and topics on community leisure, coping with emotions, public benefits, brain booster tips, and transitions for students with neurotrauma injuries.

The Conference was emceed wonderfully by Karen Seth from Queen's Medical Center Neuroscience Institute. Scotty Sagum was the keynote speaker and spoke on his recovery from a stroke. A panel of individuals who sustained a TBI (Natasha), a spinal cord injury (Matthew), and a stroke (Scotty) shared their experiences on how they survived and succeeded. Graduates from the George Washington University distance learning certificate program and

acquired brain injury and special ed. were acknowledged and spoke on how they would use the knowledge gained to help the brain injured community. Hob Osterlund, a clinical nurse, from Queen's Medical Center was the inspirational speaker and she spoke on how humor could be part of a person's treatment and recovery. And Dr. David Fray, Chief, DD Division closed by informing the audience on what is next for neurotrauma.

Overall comments for the conference were quite positive and participants were especially touched and inspired by the survivors. And there were some suggestions of topics people would like to see in the future with more information on TBI and stroke, coping techniques, brain exercises, guardianship, financial services, independent living, and prevention. Many thanks to all that participated in this conference – survivors, family members, friends, and service providers. Kudos and much appreciation to those members of

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the planning committee – Joyce Arizumi, Mary Isley, Hal Kahikina, Elzy Kaina, Bill Rodrigues, Karen Seth, Lori Suan, Tammy Tom,

Kawena Young, Scotty Sagum, and DOH staff (Aaron, Curtis, Ken and Les).



Bill Rodrigues, Karen Seth, Scotty Sagum, Elzy Kaina, Joyce Arizumi, Hal Kahikina, Jo-Ann Inouye, and Glenn Morgan

## ADVISORY BOARDS

The State Traumatic Brain Injury Advisory Board met in May to identify some services to consider for a TBI waiver. These included cognitive/psychological therapy, day program, case management, computer training, and family supports. A TBI waiver is part of the Senate Bill 2727 Relating to Neurotrauma passed this legislature.

The Neurotrauma Advisory Board met in April to confirm its membership and discuss ways on how to sustain this Board and increase members' attendance and interest.

The STBIAB meets on the third Friday of odd months; and Neurotrauma on the fourth Friday, even months, from 1:30 to 4:00 pm.

Both advisory board meetings are held at the Capitol Center, 1177 Alakea St., Room 302 on Oahu (also at the State Building in Kapolei for Neurotrauma) and the State video conference centers (VCCs) on Maui, Hawaii and Kauai. Meetings are open to the public. Call 453-6294 for the dates, times or more information.



"This newsletter is supported in part by CFDA #93.234.A from the Department of Health and Human Services (DHHS) Health Resources and Services Administration, Maternal and Child Health Bureau. The contents are the sole responsibility of the authors and do not necessarily represent the official views of DHHS. This is in the public domain. Please duplicate and distribute widely."

## TBI GRANTS

The TBI Implementation Grant has just completed its evaluation phase and the final report will be out soon. DOH staff attended the Annual Federal TBI Program State Grantee Meeting in March in Maryland. Topics of discussion included Grants Management and Post Award Reporting, Developing Effective Public Education and Identification, and the Effectiveness and Challenges of Information and Referral Systems.

The new TBI Grant has been approved and a Peer Mentoring project out of the Rehabilitation Hospital of the Pacific is being planned. For this a TBI survivor/advocate will serve as a mentor for a TBI patient who is soon to be discharged.

If you are interested in becoming a mentor or would like more information on this project, call the Neurotrauma Helpline at 453-6151.



*\*\*We provide access to our activities without regard to race, color, national origin (including language), age, sex, religion, or disability. Write or call our Affirmative Action Officer at*

*Box 3378, Honolulu, HI 96801-3378 or at (808) 586-4616 (voice) within 180 days of a problem.*

Linda Lingle, Governor  
Chiyome Leinaala Fukino, M.D.,  
Director of Health